

Message Text

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ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 VO-05 CIAE-00 FBIE-00
INSE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 CA-01 /035 R

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CA/VO:SPATTERSON
ARA/ECA:JBUMPUS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ASUNCION IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, CVIS, AR, SREF

SUBJECT: NEW PAROLE PROGRAM FOR 500 REFUGEES/DETAINEES
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1. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AUTHORIZES
THE USE OF PAROLE FOR ADMISSION INTO THE UNITED STATES OF
UP TO 500 REFUGEES/DETAINEES AND THEIR DEPENDENTS FROM
LATIN AMERICA UNDER SECTION 212(D)(5) OF THE IMMIGRATION
AND NATIONALITY ACT. THIS AUTHORIZATION IS IN EFFECT FOR
THE NEXT 24 MONTHS AND WILL BE ADMINISTERED JOINTLY BY THE

INS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

2. PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR THE NEW 500 PROGRAM ARE (A) REFUGEES FROM LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES UNDER THE MANDATE OF THE UNHCR WHO HAVE FLED TO OTHER COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND WHO ARE IN URGENT NEED OF THIRD COUNTRY RESETTLEMENT AND (B) POLITICAL DETAINEES IN DETENTION IN ANY LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRY.

3. AT THE PRESENT TIME UNHCR HAS MANDATED REFUGEE CASES IN ARGENTINA (PRIMARILY CHILEANS AND URUGUAYANS) IN PERU (CHILEANS) AND IN BRAZIL (ARGENTINES, PARAGUAYANS AND URUGUAYANS) WHO ARE SEEKING THIRD COUNTRY RESETTLEMENT INCLUDING ADMISSION TO THE UNITED STATES. TO DATE, ONLY ARGENTINA AND CHILE ARE PERMITTING THEIR NATIONALS UNDER

DETENTION TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY UPON RECEIPT OF A VISA FROM A THIRD COUNTRY.

4. THE PURPOSE OF THE NEW PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY TO POSTS AND THE DEPARTMENT FOR RESPONDING TO THE CHANGING REFUGEE/DETAINEE SITUATION IN LATIN AMERICA; POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO ADVISE DEPARTMENT SHOULD A REFUGEE/DETAINEE SITUATION DEVELOP THAT WOULD GENERATE NEW CASES FOR CONSIDERATION UNDER THE 500 PROGRAM. DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO WELCOME POSTS' RECOMMENDATION OF APPROPRIATE USG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INVOLVEMENT. PROCEDURAL DETAILS FOR PROCESSING CASES WOULD BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE POST INVOLVED,

5. THE NEW AUTHORIZATION IS FOR 500 CASES (PLUS DEPENDENTS) TO BE ADMITTED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS AS THE NEED ARISES, THIS IS NOT A NUMERICAL GOAL BUT A LIMIT WITHIN WHICH POSTS MAY RESPOND TO URGENT NEEDS. ALLOCATION OF THE 500 PAROLE NUMBERS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT.

6. INS/CO APPROVES THE FIRST ALLOCATION OF PAROLE NUMBERS UNDER THE 500 AUTHORIZATION AS FOLLOWS: ARGENTINA 100 NUMBERS FOR DETAINEES AND 20 NUMBERS FOR REFUGEES; BRAZIL 20 NUMBERS FOR REFUGEES; PERU 5 NUMBERS FOR REFUGEES. THE REMAINING 355 NUMBERS ARE AVAILABLE TO MEET REQUIREMENTS OF POSTS THROUGHOUT THE DURATION OF THE PROGRAM AS THE NEED ARISES.

7. BACKGROUND: THE GENESIS OF THE NEW 500 PAROLE PROGRAM FOR SOUTH AMERICAN REFUGEES AND DETAINEES WAS THE ADMINISTRATION'S HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES IN LATIN AMERICA WHICH FOCUSED ATTENTION OF MEMBERS OF THE US CONGRESS AND

PRIVATE GROUPS ON THE ISSUE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND REFUGEES, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE SITUATION IN ARGENTINA. ADMISSION INTO THE US OF UP TO 500 CASES OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS IS VIEWED AS AN INTERIM MEASURE UNTIL CONGRESS ENACTS NEW REFUGEE LEGISLATION.

8. FURTHER DETAILS OF CRITERIA AND GUIDANCE FOR PROCESSING WILL FOLLOW IN SEPTEL. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PAROLE, REFUGEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE151280
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JCHAVADZ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780249-0221
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780659/aaaabysq.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3c77e888-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN HA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2348986
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW PAROLE PROGRAM FOR 500 REFUGEES/DETAINEES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: SHUM, CVIS, SREF, AR
To: BUENOS AIRES BRASILIA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3c77e888-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014